



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

News Release

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Recycling Helps Improve City Recreation Facilities in Eastern San Diego

SAN DIEGO, CA—The City's Environmental Services Department presented an \$8,376 check to community organizations in Council District Seven that help support City Park and Recreation facilities. The Allied Gardens, Tierrasanta, Colina del Sol and San Carlos recreation centers, along with the Mission Trails Regional Park, were recognized for their efforts to help reduce the trash generated by City residents.

The donation, presented at the Allied Gardens Recreation Center on May 2, 2005, represents one year of revenue generated from the sale of recyclable materials collected at park system recycling drop-off locations in City Council District Seven.

Community organizations providing support for park facilities include the Allied Gardens, Tierrasanta, Colina del Sol and San Carlos recreation councils, along with the Tierrasanta Community Council and the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation.

In 2004, visitors to recreation facilities in the district deposited 283,136 pounds of recyclable plastic and glass beverage containers along with aluminum cans, newspapers, cardboard, office paper, catalogs, magazines and mixed paper.

"Recycling at City park and recreation drop-off locations gives back to the community and stretches the life of the Miramar Landfill," said Elmer L. Heap, Jr., director of the City's Environmental Services Department. "The City's only landfill could fill by 2012 and it is imperative that we divert waste from entering the landfill not only to conserve landfill space but to avoid potential fines from the State of \$10,000 per day for not meeting the mandate of 50 percent diversion by the end of 2005."

Recycling drop-off locations in Council District Seven are among 44 drop-off sites within the City's park system currently participating in ESD recycling programs. The district is represented by Councilmember Jim Madaffer.

Since 1992, the program has diverted 13,582 tons of recyclables from disposal at the Miramar Landfill and earned more than \$800,000 in revenue from the sale of recyclables. The donations have helped purchase items at the recreation facilities such as jerseys and trophies for youth leagues, gymnastics mats, tennis court nets, table tennis equipment, benches for basketball courts, brochures, and funded special events such as spring egg hunts and Halloween carnivals.

For information about the City's recycling programs, please call the Environmental Services Department at (858) 694-7000 or visit www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/. Facts on the importance of recycling in San Diego may be found at www.RecycleOrElse.com. For general information about the City park and recreation centers, call the Park and Recreation Department's Public Information office at (619) 525-8219, or go to www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/index.shtml.

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